FILED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

FEB - 2 2001

GENERAL ORDER NO. 01-3

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

DAVID J. MALAND, CLERK

GENERAL ORDER RE: DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT AND APPORTIONMENT OF CASES AMONG UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES

It is hereby **ORDERED** that matters referred and assigned to United States Magistrate Judges in this district shall be directed and apportioned as follows:

I. Division Assignments

<u>Division</u> <u>Magistrate Judge</u>

Beaumont Hon. Earl Hines (50%)

Hon. Wendell C. Radford (50%)

Lufkin¹ Hon. Harry W. McKee (25%)

Hon. Harry W. McKee (25%) Hon. Earl S. Hines (25%) Hon. Judith K. Guthrie (25%) Hon. Wendell C. Radford (25%)

Texarkana Hon. Caroline Craven (100%)

Marshall Hon. Harry W. McKee (Civil 50%)

Hon. Caroline Craven (Criminal 100%, Civil 50%)

Sherman and Paris Hon. Robert W. Faulkner (100%)

Tyler² Hon. Harry W. McKee (50%) Hon. Judith K. Guthrie (50%)

II. Apportionment

In divisions served by more than one magistrate judge, matters shall be referred and assigned as follows:

¹See Attachment A for a more detailed description of the assignments for this division.

²See Attachment B for a more detailed description of the assignments for this division.

A. Civil Cases:

- 1. Prisoner suits shall be referred at the time of filing equally among magistrate judges with concurrent civil case responsibilities except as specified above. Prisoner suits shall automatically be assigned to the magistrate judge to whom the case originally was referred when parties consent to trial and entry of judgment by a magistrate judge.
- 2. All other civil matters shall be referred or assigned randomly except as specified above or unless a specific order of the court directs otherwise.

B. Criminal Cases:

- 1. Magistrate judges shall rotate responsibilities for handling unscheduled matters and cases processed through the Central Violations Bureau (CVB) so that each has equal duty time.
- 2. Except when governed by General Order 93-6:
 - a. Class A misdemeanor cases shall be assigned randomly to a magistrate judge when the case is filed except as specified above.
 - b. Class B and Class C misdemeanors and infractions, except CVB cases, shall be assigned to the duty magistrate judge at the time of defendants first appearance in this district.

III. Miscellaneous

- A. Assignment of additional duties to magistrate judges will be made as deemed appropriate.
- B. Transfers between magistrate judges to equalize dockets and for other appropriate reasons shall be entered from time to time upon concurrence of the transferee judge.
- C. This order is effective as of the date signed and supersedes all prior general orders governing divisional assignments and allocation of duties of magistrate judges. Individual district judges <u>ad hoc</u> and standing orders governing specific referrals and assignments of cases to magistrate judges are unaffected by this order.

This general order supercedes General Order 00-5.
SIGNED this $\int \int $
FOR THE COURT:

RICHARD A. SCHELL

Chief Judge

ATTACHMENT A LUFKIN CASES³

	Cobb	Hannah	% of Total
McKee	0%	33.3%	25%
Hines	0%	33.3%	25%
Guthrie	100%	0%	25%
Radford	0%	33.3%	25%
Total	100%	100%	100%

ATTACHMENT B TYLER CASES⁴

	Steger	Ward	Hannah	% of Total
McKee	25%	25%	100%	50%
Guthrie	75%	75%	0%	50%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

³Per General Order 00-9, Judge Cobb is randomly assigned 25% of the Lufkin civil and criminal caseload, and Judge Hannah is randomly assigned 75%.

⁴Per General Order 00-9, Judges Hannah, Ward and Steger are each randomly assigned 33% of the Tyler civil and criminal caseload.